

CLEAN COPY OF THE PENDING CLAIMS

1. A matrix, comprising:

a devitalized mammalian epithelial basement membrane and tunica propria immediately subjacent to said basement membrane derived from the urinary bladder mucosa wherein said matrix induces restoration of cardiac tissue when placed in contact with diseased, damaged, or defective cardiac tissue.

2. The matrix of claim 1 wherein said matrix is custom-shaped to conform to said diseased, damaged, or defective cardiac tissue.

5. The matrix of claim 1 wherein said matrix comprises an injectable form of matrix.

6. The matrix of claim 1 wherein said matrix further comprises a pharmaceutical agent.

7. The matrix of claim 1 wherein said cardiac tissue is at least a portion of a cardiac valve.

8. The matrix of claim 1 wherein said matrix restores or replaces at least a portion of the interatrial septum.

9. The matrix of claim 1 wherein said cardiac tissue is at least a portion of the interventricular septum.

10. The matrix of claim 1 wherein said cardiac tissue is at least a portion of the myocardium.

11. A method for inducing restoration of cardiac tissue in a mammal, said method, comprising:

contacting a matrix comprising at least a portion of devitalized mammalian epithelial basement membrane and tunica propria subjacent to said basement membrane with diseased, defective, or damaged cardiac tissue, wherein said matrix induces restoration of cardiac tissue.

12. The method of claim 11 wherein said restoration of diseased or defective cardiac tissue further comprises inducing endogenous epithelial repair.

13. A composition, comprising:

at least a portion of devitalized epithelial basement membrane and tunica propria of a mucosa delaminated from a mammalian epithelial tissue and shaped to conform to diseased, damaged, or defective cardiac tissue.

14. The composition of claim 13 further comprising submucosa.

15. The composition of claim 14 further comprising muscle cells of the tunica muscularis.

16. The composition of claim 13 wherein said mammalian epithelial tissue comprises urinary bladder.

17. The composition of claim 13 wherein said mammalian epithelial tissue comprises intestine.

18. The composition of claim 13 wherein said diseased, damaged, or defective cardiac tissue comprises at least a portion of a cardiac valve.

19. The composition of claim 18 wherein said cardiac valve is selected from a group consisting of pulmonic valve, aortic valve, right atrioventricular valve or left atrioventricular valve.

20. The composition of claim 13 wherein said diseased, damaged, or defective cardiac tissue comprises myocardium.

21. A matrix, comprising:

a devitalized mammalian epithelial basement membrane and tunica propria immediately subjacent to said basement membrane derived from the mucosa of the intestine wherein said matrix induces restoration of cardiac tissue when placed in contact with diseased, defective, or damaged cardiac tissue.

22. The matrix of claim 21 wherein said matrix is custom-shaped to conform to said diseased, defective, or damaged cardiac tissue.

23. The matrix of claim 21 wherein said matrix comprises an injectable form of matrix.